

## **Luna Dance Institute Celebrates 25 Years of Dance Education**

Berkeley, CA- Luna Dance Institute is hosting a series of events to celebrate 25 years of bringing high-quality dance experiences to children and educators throughout the United States. Founders Patricia Reedy and Nancy Ng are thrilled to be continuing Luna's mission of bringing dance and creativity to underserved families and communities, dance educators, and choreographers throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.

Luna Dance is holding a series of celebrations and fundraisers during the first months of 2017:

**January 17, 10am - 12 noon:** Luna will hold a family dance birthday party at their Addison Street studio. Free.

**March 8:** Students throughout the Oakland Unified School District will perform a flashmob choreographed in collaboration with Luna teachers and share videos of these dances on social media.

**March 18, 6:30pm - 8:00pm:** Luna will hold a Silver Jubilee Gala dinner, followed by a dance party, 8-11pm.

**April 29:** Join Luna for its Dance-A-Rama pledge drive, a half-day of non-stop dance classes taught by special guests to raise funds for scholarships for its Studio Lab students.

Founders Patricia Reedy and Nancy Ng, who met at Mills College's Master of Fine Arts program in Dance, have been drawing from their backgrounds in social work, education, social outreach, arts advocacy, and dance to bring creative dance to children and families who might not otherwise get a chance. The upcoming celebrations will help Luna continue their mission of being a leader in dance education and connecting children and adults alike with their own creativity.

"Dance is about creation," said Reedy, who founded Luna in 1992. She added, "When I think about dance, I think about freedom. That is the thing that I want for all children. From that place, I want them to feel the power of their own voice coming through." Ng added, "As humans, we've always expressed ourselves through a first language of gesture and movement."

In addition to these special anniversary events, the non-profit organization also runs regular workshops, seminars, and other educational programs for children, families, artists and educators out of its Aquatic Park location at 605 Addison Street in West Berkeley.

For more information, visit [lunadanceinstitute.org](http://lunadanceinstitute.org).

### **About Luna Dance Institute**

Luna Dance Institute, a 501(c)(3), was founded in 1992 and brings dance and creative movement to children, adults, and families throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, and throughout the United States. In its 25 years, Luna has created continuously-running dance programs in the Oakland Unified School District, and its MPACT program currently offers 90 parent-child classes a year to families in residential centers and public libraries throughout Oakland. Dance educators around the nation look to Luna's outreach programs, workshops, and resources as a model for the possibilities and potential of dance education.